



# Recurrence - Examples

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# Outline

- Solving Recurrences
  - Iteration Method
  - Substitution Method
  - The Master Theorem

- $T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } n = 0 \\ T(n-1) + 1 & \text{for } n > 0 \end{cases}$

- $T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } n = 0 \\ T(n-1) + n & \text{for } n > 0 \end{cases}$

- $T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } n = 1 \\ 2T(\frac{n}{2}) + 1 & \text{for } n > 1 \end{cases}$

- $T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } n = 1 \\ aT(\frac{n}{b}) + n & \text{for } n > 1 \end{cases}$

# Solving Recurrences

- Iteration method
- Substitution method
- Master Method

# Solving Recurrences

Iterative method

- Expand the recurrence
- Work some algebra to express as a summation
- Evaluate the summation

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } n = 0 \\ T(n-1) + 1 & \text{for } n > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + 1$$

$$T(n-1) = T(n-2) + 1$$

$$T(n) = T(n-2) + 1 + 1 = T(n-2) + 2$$

$$T(n) = T(n-3) + 3$$

....

$$T(n) = T(n-k) + k$$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } n = 0 \\ T(n-1) + 1 & \text{for } n > 0 \end{cases}$$

So far we have  $n \geq k$ , we have

$$T(n) = T(n-k) + k$$

What if we have  $n = k$ ?

$$T(n) = T(n-n) + n$$

$$T(n) = n$$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } n = 0 \\ T(n-1) + n & \text{for } n > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + n$$

$$T(n-1) = T((n-1)-1) + (n-1)$$

$$T(n) = T(n-2) + (n-1) + n$$

$$T(n) = T(n-3) + (n-2) + (n-1) + n$$

.....

$$T(n) = T(n-k) + (n-(k-1)) + \dots + (n-3) + (n-2) + (n-1) + n$$



$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } n = 0 \\ T(n-1) + n & \text{for } n > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = T(n-k) + (n-(k-1)) + \dots + (n-3) + (n-2) + (n-1) + n$$

$$T(n) = \sum_{i=n-(k+1)}^n i + T(n-k)$$

So far for  $n \geq k$ , we have

$$T(n) = \sum_{i=n-(k+1)}^n i + T(n-k)$$

What if  $n = k$ ?

$$T(n) = \sum_{i=1}^n i + T(0) = \sum_{i=1}^n i + 0 = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \approx n^2$$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } n = 1 \\ 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 1 & \text{for } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 1$$

$$T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) = 2T\left(\frac{\frac{n}{2}}{2}\right) + 1$$

$$T(n) = 2\left(2T\left(\frac{n}{2^2}\right) + 1\right) + 1$$

$$T(n) = 2^2T\left(\frac{n}{2^2}\right) + 2 + 1 = 2^2T\left(\frac{n}{2^2}\right) + 3$$

$$T(n) = 2^3T\left(\frac{n}{2^3}\right) + 4 + 3 = 2^3T\left(\frac{n}{2^3}\right) + 7$$

$$T(n) = 2^4T\left(\frac{n}{2^4}\right) + 15$$

...

$$T(n) = 2^kT\left(\frac{n}{2^k}\right) + (2^k + 1)$$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } n = 1 \\ 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 1 & \text{for } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

So far for  $n \geq k$ , we have

$$T(n) = 2^k T\left(\frac{n}{2^k}\right) + (2^k + 1)$$

What if  $k = \log n \Rightarrow 2^k = n$  ?

$$T(n) = nT\left(\frac{n}{n}\right) + (n + 1)$$

$$T(n) = n + (n + 1)$$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } n = 1 \\ aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + n & \text{for } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + n$$

$$T\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) = aT\left(\frac{n}{b^2}\right) + \frac{n}{b}$$

$$T(n) = a\left(aT\left(\frac{n}{b^2}\right) + \frac{n}{b}\right) + n$$

$$T(n) = a^2T\left(\frac{n}{b^2}\right) + a\frac{n}{b} + n = a^2T\left(\frac{n}{b^2}\right) + n\left(\frac{a}{b} + 1\right)$$

$$T(n) = a^3T\left(\frac{n}{b^3}\right) + a^2\frac{n}{b^2} + n\left(\frac{a}{b} + 1\right) = a^3T\left(\frac{n}{b^3}\right) + n\left(\frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{a}{b} + 1\right)$$

...

$$T(n) = a^kT\left(\frac{n}{b^k}\right) + n\left(\frac{a^{k-1}}{b^{k-1}} + \frac{a^{k-2}}{b^{k-2}} + \cdots + \frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{a}{b} + 1\right)$$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } n = 1 \\ aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + n & \text{for } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + n$$

$$T\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) = aT\left(\frac{n}{b^2}\right) + \frac{n}{b}$$

$$T(n) = a\left(aT\left(\frac{n}{b^2}\right) + \frac{n}{b}\right) + n$$

$$T(n) = a^2T\left(\frac{n}{b^2}\right) + a\frac{n}{b} + n = a^2T\left(\frac{n}{b^2}\right) + n\left(\frac{a}{b} + 1\right)$$

$$T(n) = a^3T\left(\frac{n}{b^3}\right) + a^2\frac{n}{b^2} + n\left(\frac{a}{b} + 1\right) = a^3T\left(\frac{n}{b^3}\right) + n\left(\frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{a}{b} + 1\right)$$

...

$$T(n) = a^kT\left(\frac{n}{b^k}\right) + n\left(\frac{a^{k-1}}{b^{k-1}} + \frac{a^{k-2}}{b^{k-2}} + \cdots + \frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{a}{b} + 1\right)$$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } n = 1 \\ aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + n & \text{for } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

So far for  $n \geq k$ , we have

$$T(n) = a^k T\left(\frac{n}{b^k}\right) + n\left(\frac{a^{k-1}}{b^{k-1}} + \frac{a^{k-2}}{b^{k-2}} + \cdots + \frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{a}{b} + 1\right)$$

What if  $k = \log_b n \Rightarrow b^k = n$  ?

$$T(n) = a^k T\left(\frac{n}{b^k}\right) + n\left(\frac{a^{k-1}}{b^{k-1}} + \frac{a^{k-2}}{b^{k-2}} + \cdots + \frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{a}{b} + 1\right)$$

$$T(n) = a^k T(1) + n\left(\frac{a^{k-1}}{b^{k-1}} + \frac{a^{k-2}}{b^{k-2}} + \cdots + \frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{a}{b} + 1\right)$$

$$T(n) = a^k \frac{b^k}{b^k} + n\left(\frac{a^{k-1}}{b^{k-1}} + \frac{a^{k-2}}{b^{k-2}} + \cdots + \frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{a}{b} + 1\right)$$

$$T(n) = n \frac{a^k}{b^k} + n\left(\frac{a^{k-1}}{b^{k-1}} + \frac{a^{k-2}}{b^{k-2}} + \cdots + \frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{a}{b} + 1\right)$$

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } n = 1 \\ aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + n & \text{for } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = n \frac{a^k}{b^k} + n \left( \frac{a^{k-1}}{b^{k-1}} + \frac{a^{k-2}}{b^{k-2}} + \cdots + \frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{a}{b} + 1 \right)$$

$$T(n) = n \left( \frac{a^k}{b^k} + \frac{a^{k-1}}{b^{k-1}} + \frac{a^{k-2}}{b^{k-2}} + \cdots + \frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{a}{b} + 1 \right)$$

So with  $k = \log_b n \Rightarrow b^k = n$ , we have

$$T(n) = n \left( \frac{a^k}{b^k} + \frac{a^{k-1}}{b^{k-1}} + \frac{a^{k-2}}{b^{k-2}} + \cdots + \frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{a}{b} + 1 \right)$$

What if  $a = b$ ?

$$T(n) = n(k + 1)$$

$$T(n) = n(\log_b n + 1)$$

$$T(n) = n \log_b n + n$$

$$T(n) = \Theta(n \log_b n)$$

# Solving Recurrences

- The substitution method
- A.k.a. the “making a good guess method”
- Guess the form of the answer then use induction , then use induction to find the constants and show that solution works

Examples:

- $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n) \rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$
- $T(n) = 2T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + n \rightarrow ???$



# Example

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n \dots\dots\dots A$$

Suppose

$$T(n) \leq n$$

$T(n/2) \leq n/2$  substitute in equation A

$$T(n) = 2(n/2) + n$$

$$= n + n \text{ which is not equal to } T(n) \leq n$$

Suppose

$$T(n) \leq n \lg n$$

$T(n/2) \leq n/2 \lg n/2$  substitute in equation A

$$T(n) = 2(n/2 \lg(n/2)) + n$$

$$= n \lg n - n \lg 2 + n$$

$$= n \lg n - n + n$$

$$= n \lg n$$

# Example (Binary Search)

$$T(n) = T(n/2) + 1 \dots\dots\dots A$$

Suppose  $T(n) \leq \lg n$

$T(n/2) \leq \lg(n/2)$  Substitute in A

$$T(n) = \lg(n/2) + 1$$

$$= \lg n - \lg 2 + 1$$

$$= \lg n - 1 + 1$$

$$= \lg n \text{ Which is equal to } T(n) \leq \lg n$$

Suppose  $T(n) < n = n$

$$T(n/2) \leq n/2$$

$$T(n) = n/2 + 1$$

$$T(n) = (n+2)/2 \text{ which is not equal to } T(n) \leq n$$

# Example

$$T(n) = 2 T[(n/2) + 17] + n$$

we neglect 17, because when  $n$  is large the difference between  $T(n/2)$  and  $T[(n/2)+17]$  is not that large: both cut  $n$  nearly even in half.

$$T(n) = 2 T(n/2) + n$$

Suppose  $T(n) \leq n \lg n$

$$T(n/2) \leq n/2 \lg n/2$$

$$T(n) = 2n/2 \lg n/2 + n$$

$$= n \lg n - n \lg 2 + n$$

$$= n \lg n - n + n$$

$$= n \lg n$$

# Divide and Conquer Approach

- Many useful algorithms are recursive in structure: to solve a given problem they call themselves recursively one or more times to deal with closely related sub-problems.
- These algorithms typically follow a **divide-and-conquer** approach: they break the problem into several **sub problems** that are similar to the original problem but **smaller in size**, solve the problem **recursively**, and then **combine** these solutions to create a solution to the original problem.

# Divide and Conquer Approach

- The **divide-and-conquer** paradigm involves three steps at each level of the recursion:
  - **Divide** the problem into a number of sub-problems.
  - **Conquer** the sub-problems by solving them recursively. If the sub-problems sizes are small enough.
  - **Combine** the solution to the sub problems for the original problem.

# Divide and Conquer Approach

- Suppose we divide the problem into  $a$  sub-problems, each of which is  $1/b$  the size of the original.
- If we take  $D(n)$  time to divide the problem into sub-problems and  $C(n)$  time to combine the solutions to the sub-problems into the solution of the original problem, we get the recurrence

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(n) & \text{for } n \leq c \\ aT\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + D(n) + C(n) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# The Master Theorem

- Given: a *divide and conquer* algorithm
  - An algorithm that divides the problem of size  $n$  into  $a$  sub-problems, each of size  $n/b$
  - Let the cost of each stage (i.e., the work to divide the problem + combine solved sub-problems) be described by the function  $f(n)$
- Then, the Master Theorem gives us a cookbook for the algorithm's running time:

# The Master Theorem

- If  $T(n) = aT(\frac{n}{b}) + f(n)$  then

- $$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) & f(n) = O(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon}) \\ \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n) & f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) \\ \Theta(f(n)) & f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon}) \text{ AND } \\ & af\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) < cf(n) \text{ for large } n \end{cases} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \varepsilon > 0 \\ c < 1 \end{array} \right.$$



# Example (Quick Sort)

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n$$

$$a=2 \quad b=2 \quad f(n)=n$$

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 2} = n$$

which is equal to  $f(n)$ , Condition of Case-II are satisfied

$$T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$$

$$T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$$

Equal Case II  
> Case I  
< Case III

# Example (Binary Search)

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + 1$$

$$a=2 \quad b=2 \quad f(n)=1$$

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 2} = n^1 = n$$

which is equal to  $f(n)$ , Condition of

Case-II are satisfied

$$T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a} \log n)$$

$$T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_2 2} \log n)$$

$$T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$$

**Equal Case II**

**> Case I**

**< Case III**

# Example

$$T(n) = 9T(n/3) + n$$

$$a=9 \quad b=3 \quad f(n) = n$$

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_3 9} = \Theta(n^2)$$

Since  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_3 9 - \varepsilon})$ , where  $\varepsilon = 1$ , Case-I applies:

$$T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a}) \text{ when } f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a - \varepsilon})$$

Thus the solution is  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$

# Example

$$T(n) = 3T(n/4) + n \lg n$$

$a=3 \quad b=4 \quad f(n) = n \lg n$

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_4 3} = \Theta(n^{0.793}) \text{ where } \varepsilon \text{ approx.} = 0.2$$

Since  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_4 3 + \varepsilon})$ , where  $\varepsilon = 0.2$ , Case-III applies:

Case III if  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$  for constant  $\varepsilon > 0$ , and if

$af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$  for some constant  $c < 1$  and all sufficient large  $n$ , then

$$T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$$

$$af(n/b) = 3(n/4) \lg(n/4) \leq 3/4 n \lg n = c f(n) \text{ for } c = 3/4$$

$$af(n/b) = 3/4 n \lg(n/4)$$

Thus the solution is  $T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$

$$f(n) = n \lg n$$

$$af(n/b) = a \frac{n}{b} \log \left( \frac{n}{b} \right)$$

$$3f(n/4) = 3(n/4) \lg n/4$$

# Example

$$T(n) = 4T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n^3$$

$$a=4 \quad b=2 \quad f(n) = n^3$$

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 4} = \Theta(n^2) \text{ where } \varepsilon = 1$$

Since  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_2 4 + \varepsilon})$ , where  $\varepsilon = 1$ , Case-III applies:

Case III if  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$  for constant  $\varepsilon > 0$ , and if

$af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$  for some constant  $c < 1$  and all sufficient large  $n$ , then

$$T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$$

$$af(n/b) = 4(n/2)^3 \leq \frac{4}{2}n^3 = c f(n) \text{ for } c = 4/2$$

$$af(n/b) = \frac{4}{8}n^3 \leq \frac{4}{2}n^3 = c f(n)$$

$$af(n/b) = \frac{1}{2}n^3 \leq 2n^3 = c f(n)$$

Thus the solution is  $T(n) = \Theta(n^3)$

$$f(n) = n^3$$

$$4f(n/2) = 4(n/2)^3$$

$$af(n/b) = a(n/b)^3$$

# Example

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + n^2$$

$$a=1 \quad b=2 \quad f(n) = n^2$$

$$n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 1} = n^0 \text{ where } \varepsilon = 2$$

Since  $f(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_2 1 + \varepsilon})$ , where  $\varepsilon = 2$ , Case-III applies:

Case III if  $f(n) = \Omega(n^{\log_b a + \varepsilon})$  for constant  $\varepsilon > 0$ , and if

$af(n/b) \leq cf(n)$  for some constant  $c < 1$  and all sufficient large  $n$ , then

$$T(n) = \Theta(f(n))$$

$$a f(n/b) = \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} n^2 = c f(n)$$

$$a f(n/b) = \frac{1}{4} n^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} n^2 = c f(n) \text{ for } c = 1/2$$

Thus the solution is  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$

$$f(n) = n^2$$

$$1f(n/2) = (n/2)^2$$

$$af(n/b) = a(n/b)^2$$